pennsylvania
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION

COMMONWEALTH OF PENNSYLVANIA
DEPARTMENT OF ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION
BUREAU OF SAFE DRINKING WATER

2024 ANNUAL DRINKING WATER QUALITY REPORT

PWSID #: 4110003 NAME: Northern Cambria Municipal Authority

Este informe contiene información importante acerca de su agua potable. Haga que alguien lo traduzca para usted, ó hable con alguien que lo entienda. (This report contains important information about your drinking water. Have someone translate it for you, or speak with someone who understands it.)

WATER SYSTEM INFORMATION:

This report shows our water quality and what it means. If you have any questions about this report or concerning your water utility, please contact Ron Depto at 814-948-5791.

We want you to be informed about your water supply. If you want to learn more, please attend any of our regularly scheduled meetings. They are held on the second Wednesday of the month at 5:00 pm in the Northern Cambria Borough Office, 1202 Philadelphia Avenue.

SOURCE(S) OF WATER:

Our water sources are ground water. The sources in the Barnsboro side of Northern Cambria are Hazeltine Mine Source, which is located between Elizabeth Street and Elder Avenue, and Miller Hollow Mine source, which is located on Old Miller Road in Susquehanna Township. The sources for the Spangler Treatment plant are Well #1, Well #3, and Well #4 located in Barr Township. All sources are now blended.

A Source Water Assessment of our source(s) was completed by the PA Department of Environmental Protection (Pa. DEP). The Assessment has found that our sources are potentially most susceptible to past mining practices. Overall our sources have moderate risk of significant contamination. A summary report of the Assessment is available on the Source Water Assessment Summary Reports eLibrary web page: www.elibrary.dep.state.pa.us/dsweb/View/Collection-10045. Complete reports were distributed to municipalities, water supplier, local planning agencies and PADEP offices. Copies of the complete report are available for review at the Pa. DEP Southwest Regional Office, Records Management Unit at 412-442-4000.

Some people may be more vulnerable to contaminants in drinking water than the general population. Immuno-compromised persons such as persons with cancer undergoing chemotherapy, persons who have undergone organ transplants, people with HIV/AIDS or other immune system disorders, some elderly, and infants can be particularly at risk from infections. These people should seek advice about drinking water from their health care providers. EPA/CDC guidelines on appropriate means to lessen the risk of infection by *Cryptosporidium* and other microbial contaminants are available from the *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* (800-426-4791).

MONITORING YOUR WATER:

We routinely monitor for contaminants in your drinking water according to federal and state laws. The following tables show the results of our monitoring for the period of January 1 to December 31, 2023. The State allows us to monitor for some contaminants less than once per year because the concentrations of these contaminants do not change frequently. Some of our data is from prior years in accordance with the Safe Drinking Water Act. The date has been noted on the sampling results table.

DEFINITIONS:

Action Level (AL) **-** The concentration of a contaminant which, if exceeded, triggers treatment or other requirements which a water system must follow.

Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) - The highest level of a contaminant that is allowed in drinking water. MCLs are set as close to the MCLGs as feasible using the best available treatment technology.

Maximum Contaminant Level Goal (MCLG) - The level of a contaminant in drinking water below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MCLGs allow for a margin of safety.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level (MRDL) - The highest level of a disinfectant allowed in drinking water. There is convincing evidence that addition of a disinfectant is necessary for control of microbial contaminants.

Maximum Residual Disinfectant Level Goal (MRDLG) - The level of a drinking water disinfectant below which there is no known or expected risk to health. MRDLGs do not reflect the benefits of the use of disinfectants to control microbial contaminants.

Minimum Residual Disinfectant Level (MinRDL) - The minimum level of residual disinfectant required at the entry point to the distribution system.

Level 1 Assessment – A Level 1 assessment is a study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system.

Level 2 Assessment – A Level 2 assessment is a very detailed study of the water system to identify potential problems and determine (if possible) why an *E. coli* MCL violation has occurred and/or why total coliform bacteria have been found in our water system on multiple occasions.

Treatment Technique (TT) - A required process intended to reduce the level of a contaminant in drinking water.

Mrem/year = millirems per year (a measure of radiation absorbed by the body)

pCi/L = picocuries per liter (a measure of radioactivity)

ppb = parts per billion, or micrograms per liter (µg/L)

ppm = parts per million, or milligrams per liter (mg/L)

ppq = parts per quadrillion, or picograms per liter

ppt = parts per trillion, or nanograms per liter

DETECTED SAMPLE RESULTS:

Chemical Contaminants								
Contaminant	**MCL in CCR Units**	**MCLG**	**Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Haloacetic Acids (HAA5)	60	N/A	.185	0-1.48	ppb	10/15/24	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Total Trihalomethanes (TTHM's)	80	N/A	1.445	0-4.66	ppb	10/15/24	N	By-product of drinking water chlorination
Chlorine (Distribution)	MRDL= 4.0	MRDLG = 4.0	0.74	0.44-0.74	ppm	OCT 2024	N	Water additive used to control microbes
Barium (101)	2	2	0.021	n/a	ppm	11/18/24	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (102)	2	2	0.0223	n/a	ppm	3/7/2018	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Barium (103)	2	2	0.103	n/a	ppm	11/18/24	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (101)*	2	2	0.182	n/a	ppm	3/7/2018	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (102)*	2	2	0.191	n/a	ppm	3/7/2018	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Fluoride (103)*	2	2	0.203	n/a	ppm	3/7/2018	N	Erosion of natural deposits
Benzo(a) pyrene	200	0	160	0-160	Nano grams /L	Oct 2017	N	Leaching from linings of water storage tanks and distribution lines.

*EPA's MCL for fluoride is 4 ppm. However, Pennsylvania has set a lower MCL to better protect human health.

Entry Point Disinfectant Residual							
Contaminant	**Minimum Disinfectant Residual**	**Lowest Level Detected**	**Range of Detections**	**Units**	**Sample Date**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Chlorine (EP101) Chlorine (EP102) Chlorine (EP103)	0.40	0.52 2.50 0.40	0.52-1.79 2.50-2.59 0.40-1.40	ppm	07/21/2024 01/04/2024 01/11/2024	N	Water additive used to control microbes.

Lead and Copper							
Contaminant	**Action Level (AL)**	**MCLG**	**90th Percentile Value**	**Units**	**# of Sites Above AL of Total Sites**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Lead (2022)	15	0	1.58	ppb	1 of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.
Copper (2022)	1.3	1.3	0.355	ppm	0 of 20	N	Corrosion of household plumbing.

Microbial (related to Assessments/Corrective Actions regarding TC positive results)					
Contaminants	**TT**	**MCLG**	**Assessments/ Corrective Actions**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
Total Coliform Bacteria	Any system that has failed to complete all the required assessments **or** correct all identified sanitary defects, is in violation of the treatment technique requirement	N/A	See detailed description under "Detected Contaminants Health Effects Language and Corrective Actions" section	N	Naturally present in the environment.

Microbial (related to E. coli)					
Contaminants	**MCL**	**MCLG**	**Positive Sample(s)**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
E. coli	Routine and repeat samples are total coliform-positive **and** either is *E. coli*-positive **or** system fails to take repeat samples following *E. coli*-positive routine sample **or** system fails to analyze total coliform-positive repeat sample for *E. coli.*	0	0	N	Human and animal fecal waste.
Contaminants	**TT**	**MCLG**	**Assessments/ Corrective Actions**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**

E. coli	Any system that has failed to complete all the required assessments **or** correct all identified sanitary defects, is in violation of the treatment technique requirement	N/A	See description under "Detected Contaminants Health Effects Language and Corrective Actions" section	N	Human and animal fecal waste.

Raw Source Water Microbial					
Contaminants	**MCLG**	**Total # of Positive Samples**	**Dates**	**Violation Y/N**	**Sources of Contamination**
E. coli	0	N/A	N/A	N	Human and animal fecal waste.

VIOLATIONS:

Failure to Monitor: Trihalomethanes were not recorded for one quarter as a part of the regular annual monitoring requirements for 2022. The subcontracted laboratory lost the sample in route. TTHMs were sampled as required thereafter.
During 2023 two parameters for the SOC kit were missed but re sampling was done, and the system was back in compliance.
Also during 2023, a distribution chlorine sample was missed. The sample was taken later and achieved compliance with good chlorine residual.
During 2024 IOC sampling was missed for Entry point 101, sampling was conducted in 2025. The samples were taken late and compliance was achieved.
PFOS/PFOA sampling will be conducted for 4 consecutive quarters to remain in compliance for EP 104. EP 102 PFOS/PFOA samples were collected until modifications were made to the water system, abandoning EP 102.
SOC Di(2-ethylhexyl)phthalate and Benzo(A)pyrene were not collected in 2024, will be collected in 2025.
EP 103 Arsenic sample was lost at the lab and the samples were re collected to achieve compliance.
Entry Point 103 PFOS/PFAS sample was not collected in third quarter 2024, samples will be collected Q3 of 2025.

EDUCATIONAL INFORMATION:

The sources of drinking water (both tap water and bottled water) include rivers, lakes, streams, ponds, reservoirs, springs and wells. As water travels over the surface of the land or through the ground, it dissolves naturally-occurring minerals and, in some cases, radioactive material, and can pick up substances resulting from the presence of animals or from human activity. Contaminants that may be present in source water include:

Microbial contaminants, such as viruses and bacteria, which may come from sewage treatment plants, septic systems, agricultural livestock operations, and wildlife.

- Inorganic contaminants, such as salts and metals, which can be naturally-occurring or result from urban stormwater run-off, industrial or domestic wastewater discharges, oil and gas production, mining, or farming.
- Pesticides and herbicides, which may come from a variety of sources such as agriculture, urban stormwater runoff, and residential uses.
- Organic chemical contaminants, including synthetic and volatile organic chemicals, which are by-products of industrial processes and petroleum production, and can also come from gas stations, urban stormwater runoff, and septic systems.
- Radioactive contaminants, which can be naturally-occurring or be the result of oil and gas production and mining activities.

In order to ensure that tap water is safe to drink, EPA and DEP prescribes regulations which limit the amount of certain contaminants in water provided by public water systems. FDA and DEP regulations establish limits for contaminants in bottled water which must provide the same protection for public health.

Drinking water, including bottled water, may reasonably be expected to contain at least small amounts of some contaminants. The presence of contaminants does not necessarily indicate that water poses a health risk. More information about contaminants and potential health effects can be obtained by calling the Environmental Protection Agency's *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* (800-426-4791).

Information about Lead

If present, elevated levels of lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Northern Cambria Municipal Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components. When your water has been sitting for several hours, you can minimize the potential for lead exposure by flushing your tap for 30 seconds to 2 minutes before using water for drinking or cooking. If you are concerned about lead in your water, you may wish to have your water tested. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and

steps you can take to minimize exposure is available from the *Safe Drinking Water Hotline* or at *http://www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.*

Lead can cause serious health problems, especially for pregnant women and young children. Lead in drinking water is primarily from materials and components associated with service lines and home plumbing. Northern Cambria Municipal Authority is responsible for providing high quality drinking water and removing lead pipes, but cannot control the variety of materials used in plumbing components in your home. You share the responsibility for protecting yourself and your family from the lead in your home plumbing. You can take responsibility by identifying and removing lead materials within your home plumbing and taking steps to reduce your family's risk. Before drinking tap water, flush your pipes for several minutes by running your tap, taking a shower, doing laundry or a load of dishes. You can also use a filter certified by an American National Standards Institute accredited certifier to reduce lead in drinking water. If you are concerned about lead in your water and wish to have your water tested, contact Ron Depto at 814-948-5791. Information on lead in drinking water, testing methods, and steps you can take to minimize exposure is available at. www.epa.gov/safewater/lead.